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17364
012304

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(not for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR § 1.53(b))

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Attorney Docket No. | 7156-139 |
| First Inventor | Mark Bland, et al. |
| Title | HINGE SYSTEM FOR ARTICULATING MOWER DECKS |
| Express Mail Label No. | EL983135294US |

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents

| | |
|--|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> *Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17) (submit an original and a duplicate for fee processing) | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, large table or Computer Program (Appendix) |
| 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Form (CRF) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Specification Sequence Listing on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <input type="checkbox"/> CD-ROM or CD-R (2 copies); or ii. <input type="checkbox"/> paper c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statements verifying identity of above copies |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification (preferred arrangement set forth below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Descriptive title of the Invention - Cross References to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference sequence listing, a table, or a computer program listing appendix or computer program listing appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) |
| 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) <input type="checkbox"/> Informal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Formal | 10. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney |
| 5. Oath or Declaration | 11. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) |
| a. <input type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) | 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations |
| b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. § 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 18 completed) | 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment |
| i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b). | 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76 | 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (If foreign priority is claimed) |
| 18. If a CONTINUATING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment, or in an Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76: | 16. <input type="checkbox"/> Nonpublication Request under 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i). Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/35 or its equivalent. |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continuation <input type="checkbox"/> Divisional <input type="checkbox"/> Continuation-in-part (CIP) | 17. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| Prior application information: Examiner: Robert Eric Pezzuto Group / Art Unit: 4171 | of prior application No: 10/200,838 |

For CONTINUATION or DIVISIONAL APPS only: The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which an oath or declaration is supplied under Box 5b, is considered a part of the disclosure of the accompanying continuation or divisional application and is hereby incorporated by reference. The incorporation can only be relied upon when a portion has been inadvertently omitted from the submitted application parts.

19. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Customer Number: | OR | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence address below | | | |
| Name | Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty, McNett & Henry LLP | | | | |
| Address | Bank One Center/Tower 111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700 | | | | |
| City | Indianapolis | State | IN | Zip Code | 46204-5137 |
| Country | USA | Telephone | (317) 634-3456 | | Fax (317) 637-7561 |
| Name (Print/Type) | R. Randall Frisk | | | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 32,221 |
| Signature | <u>R. Randall Frisk</u> | | | Date | January 23, 2004 |

Express Mail Label Number EL98313529US**Date of Deposit January 23, 2004**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR Section 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

R. Randall Frisk
Signature of person mailing paper or fee

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS: SEND TO: Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

17364 U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FEE TRANSMITTAL FOR FY 2004

Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

Total Amount of Payment (\$ 385.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Mark Bland

Group Art Unit

4171

Examiner Name

Robert Eric Pezzuto

Attorney Docket Number

7156-139

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Check Credit card Money Other None
Order

Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number

23-3030

Deposit Account Name

Woodard, Emhardt, Moriarty,
McNett & Henry LLP

The Commissioner is authorized to: (check all that apply)

- Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application, excluding the payment of issue fees
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Description

Fee Paid

| Fee Code | Fee (\$) | Fee Code | Fee (\$) | Fee Description | Fee Paid |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|--|----------|
| 1051 | 130 | 2051 | 65 | Surcharge – late filing fee or oath | |
| 1052 | 50 | 2052 | 25 | Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet. | |
| 1053 | 130 | 1053 | 130 | Non-English specification | |
| 1812 | 2,520 | 1812 | 2,520 | For filing a request for ex parte reexamination | |
| 1804 | 920* | 1804 | 920* | Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner's Action | |
| 1805 | 1,840* | 1805 | 1,840* | Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner's Action | |
| 1251 | 110 | 2251 | 55 | Extension for reply within first month | |
| 1252 | 420 | 2252 | 210 | Extension for reply within second month | |
| 1253 | 950 | 2253 | 475 | Extension for reply within third month | |
| 1254 | 1,480 | 2254 | 740 | Extension for reply within fourth month | |
| 1255 | 2,010 | 2255 | 1,005 | Extension for reply within fifth month | |
| 1401 | 330 | 2401 | 165 | Notice of Appeal | |
| 1402 | 330 | 2402 | 165 | Filing a brief in support of an appeal | |
| 1403 | 290 | 2403 | 145 | Request for oral hearing | |
| 1451 | 1,510 | 1451 | 1,510 | Petition to Institute a public use proceeding | |
| 1452 | 110 | 2452 | 55 | Petition to revive – unavoidable | |
| 1453 | 1,330 | 2453 | 665 | Petition to revive – unintentional | |
| 1501 | 1,330 | 2501 | 665 | Utility issue fee (or reissue) | |
| 1502 | 480 | 2502 | 240 | Design issue fee | |
| 1503 | 640 | 2503 | 320 | Plant issue fee | |
| 1460 | 130 | 1460 | 130 | Petitions to the Commissioner | |
| 1807 | 50 | 1807 | 50 | Petitions related to provisional applications | |
| 1806 | 180 | 1806 | 180 | Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt | |
| 8021 | 40 | 8021 | 40 | Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties) | |
| 1809 | 770 | 2809 | 385 | Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a)) | |
| 1810 | 770 | 2810 | 385 | For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b)) | |
| 1801 | 770 | 2801 | 385 | Request for Continued Examination (RCE) | |
| 1802 | 900 | 1802 | 900 | Request for expedited examination of a design application | |
| Other Fee (specify) | | | | | |

* Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)

*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)

R. Randall Frisk

Complete (if applicable)

Signature

R. Randall Frisk

Registration No.
(Attorney/Agent)

32,221

Telephone (317) 634-3456

Date January 23, 2004

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136(a). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 6 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.